

**EPA EVALUATION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
FINAL PHASE I WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

**Overview**

The District of Columbia developed a Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) that commits to additional urban stormwater controls and includes a plan for increased engagement with other federal agencies to ensure that reduction targets are met by 2017 and 2025. Meeting these targets is contingent in part upon the issuance of a final MS4 permit with performance standards for new development, redevelopment and retrofits similar to those of the draft permit issued earlier in 2010.

**Allocations**

The District of Columbia meets its nutrient and sediment allocations in the final TMDL. The District's input deck resulted in loads that are 0% over for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment allocations.

**Urban Stormwater**

**Key improvements since draft WIP:**

- The final WIP incorporates a new stormwater volume standard (1.2" retention) consistent with the District's draft MS4 permit. EPA and the District anticipate that the final MS4 permit will include detailed information on permit conditions, timelines for implementation, tracking, inspections, and reporting.
- DDOE staff worked extensively with EPA to include additional practices like stream restoration and to simulate the stormwater volume standard in their WIP so that the final WIP now meets the high end of the sediment allocation range. As in the draft WIP, DC also meets its nutrient allocations.
- The final WIP includes a more detailed list of GSA properties and provides a more detailed discussion of the District's enforcement authority regarding federal properties. The WIP also describes a plan for engaging federal facilities in the Phase II WIP, including tracking of federal 2-year milestones.

**EPA actions:** Ongoing oversight for Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions and implement TMDL WLAs through permit reissuance or modification

- EPA will continue to work with DDOE to finalize the MS4 permit to include new retention standards for both federal and nonfederal facilities. EPA will assure specific permit conditions and fact sheet language consistent with TMDL expectations (e.g. implementation action timelines, inspection schedule, verification, tracking, etc).
- Once the permit is finalized, EPA will continue to work with the District to implement the MS4 permit consistent with meeting 2-year milestones and reporting for the TMDL.
- EPA will continue to work with other federal agencies towards a resolution of the municipal stormwater program fee for service payment. EPA understands that both federal and nonfederal fees are integral to the District's ability to implement the strategies proposed in the WIP.

**Wastewater**

**Key improvements since draft WIP:**

- The final WIP includes a complete list of non-significant facilities.
- EPA and DC agreed upon the inclusion of a growth reserve in the final TMDL documentation. Although the final WIP and input deck do acknowledge the growth reserve, the final WLA for Blue Plains is separate and provides loading sufficient for and consistent with the permit limits in the 2010 NPDES permit. If additional capacity is needed beyond the permitted loads, the District has

committed to work with other jurisdictions as necessary to adjust the Blue Plains Inter-jurisdictional Municipal Agreement.

**EPA actions:** Ongoing oversight for Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions and implement TMDL WLAs through permit reissuance or modification

- EPA will continue to work closely with the District in assuring that loads from non-significant wastewater facilities are consistent with the aggregate wasteload allocation.
- The final WIP proposes that the WLA for Blue Plains be developed based on the annual average flows for outfall 001. WLAs for the combined sewer system (CSS) and its associated WWTP in the District of Columbia are based on loading sufficient for and consistent with the limits in the NPDES permit issued by EPA for Blue Plains and the Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for the CSS system in the District of Columbia. The WLAs assume full implementation of the Blue Plain's LTCP.

**General Note on EPA Actions**

EPA will assess annual progress and track 2-year milestone commitments. EPA may take additional actions beyond those listed above, as described in its December 29, 2009 letter, to ensure that nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment reductions identified in the WIP and needed to meet TMDL allocations are achieved.